

What we claim is:

1. A computerized method for providing a personalized list of future meetings per subject per user based upon the user's preferences, comprising the steps of:
 - obtaining a profile 20, 26, 32 listing various meeting preferences of a user;
 - obtaining a list of meetings 36, 40, 45 corresponding to at least a portion of the user's profile, for preparation of a recommended meetings list; and
 - sending the user the list of recommended meetings 51.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining a profile 20 of the user's meeting preferences includes the steps of:
 - communicating with said user;
 - presenting questions to said user designed to extract the user's preferences for meetings; and
 - assembling an explicit user profile 20 from the user's answers 16 to the questions.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining a profile 26 of the user's meeting preferences includes the steps of:
 - preparing a listing of various topics relative to a typical user's preferences in selecting meetings to attend or participate;
 - monitoring Website activities 22 of said user to obtain a listing of Websites said user contacts for information pertaining to meetings; and
 - assembling an implicit user profile 26 for said user by relating said topic listing to the listing of Website activities obtained from said monitoring step.
4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining a profile of the user's meeting preferences includes the steps of:
 - preparing a listing of various topics relative to a typical user's preferences in selecting meetings to attend or participate;
 - presenting questions based upon said topic listing to said user to extract the user's preferences 16 for meetings;
 - assembling an explicit user profile 20 from the user's answers to the questions;

monitoring Website activities 22 of said user to obtain a listing of Websites said user contacts for information pertaining to meetings;

constructing an implicit user profile 26 for said user by relating said topic listing 16 to the listing of Website activities obtained from said monitoring step 22; and

combining said explicit 20 and implicit 26 user profiles to provide said user profile 32 for use in said step of obtaining a list of meetings.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining a list of meetings includes the steps of:

connecting to the Internet 8; and

searching 44 the Web for meetings having some association with said user profile 20, 26, 32.

6. The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of obtaining a list of meetings includes the steps of:

connecting to the Internet 8; and

searching 44 the Web for meetings having some association with said explicit user profile.

7. The method of Claim 3, wherein said step of obtaining a list of meetings includes the steps of:

connecting to the Internet 8; and

searching 44 the Web for meetings having some association with said implicit user profile 26.

8. The method of Claim 4, wherein said step of obtaining a list of meetings 36, 40, 45 includes the steps of:

connecting to the Internet 8; and

searching 44 the Web for meetings having some association with said combined explicit and implicit user profiles 32.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein said steps of sending includes the steps of:
connecting to the Internet 8; and
emailing 51 the list of recommended meetings to said user.
10. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining a list of meetings 36, 40 includes the steps:
matching 38 the preferences of said user against other users; and
generating a recommended meetings list 40 for said user based upon meetings selected by said other users having preferences similar to those of said user.
11. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining a list of meetings, further includes the step of:
retrieving location specific information 48 for each meeting obtained in response to a prior request from said user for such information, whereby such information is included with the meeting information.
12. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of sending 51 a list of meetings, further includes the steps of:
asking said user if they wish to receive location specific information for meetings selected from the list of recommended meetings;
retrieving 47 in response to a request by said user, location specific information for meetings selected by said user; and
sending 49 the location specific information to said user.
13. A computerized system for obtaining personalized lists 36, 40, 45 of future meetings per subject per user of said system 1, comprising:
a first computer 4 for said system 1 including:
a memory means for storing data, and
means for bidirectionally communicating information over the Internet 8;
a plurality of second computers 12 for a plurality of users of said system, respectively, each of said plurality of second computers 12 including:
memory means for storing data, and

means for bidirectionally communicating information over the Internet 8;
means for operating said first computer 4 to obtain a profile listing 20, 26, 32 of various meeting preferences of a user requesting a list of meetings;
means for operating said first computer 4 to obtain a list of meetings 36, 40, 45 corresponding to at least a portion of the profile 20, 26, 32 of said user; and
means for transferring a recommended meetings list from said first to said second computer.

14. The system of Claim 13, wherein said means for obtaining a profile 20 further includes:

said first computer 4 and said second computer 12 of said user each being programmed for performing the following functions:

providing bidirectional communication over the Internet 8 between said first computer 4 and said second computer 12 of said user;

presenting questions, from said first computer 4 to said second computer 12, for said user to answer in relation to said user's preferences for meetings;

transmitting the answers from the second computer 12 of said user to said first computer 4; and

assembling 45 via operation of said first computer 4 an explicit user profile 20 based upon the user's answers to the questions.

15. The system of Claim 13, wherein said means for obtaining a profile 26, further includes:

first programming means for programming said first computer 4 to monitor Website activities of said user to obtain a listing of Websites said user contacts for information pertaining to meetings; and

second programming means for programming said first computer 4 to assemble an implicit user profile 26 for said user by comparing said Websites to a previously prepared listing of topics of typical user's preferences in selecting meetings to attend or participate.

16. The system of Claim 13, wherein said means for obtaining a user profile 32 further includes:

said first computer 4, and said second computer 12 of said user, being programmed to provide the following functions:

presenting questions to said user based upon a prepared listing of various topics relative to a typical user's preferences in selecting meetings to attend or participate, communicated from said first computer to said second computer;

assembling via said first computer 4 an explicit user profile 20 from said owner's answers to the questions as communicated from said second computer 12 to said first computer 4;

monitoring 22 via said first computer 4, the Website activities of said second computer 12 of said user to obtain a listing of Websites said user contacts for information pertaining to meetings;

constructing via said first computer 4 an implicit user profile 26 for said user by relating said topic listing to the listing of Website activities obtained from said monitoring 22 the Web search activities of said user; and

combining via said first computer 4 said explicit 20 and implicit 26 user profiles to provide an optimized said user profile 32.

17. The system of Claim 13, wherein said means for obtaining a list of meetings includes:

means for programming said first computer 4 to search the Web for meetings having some association with said user profile 20, 26, 32.

18. The system of Claim 14, wherein said means for obtaining a list of meetings includes:

means for programming said first computer 4 to search 44 the Web for meetings having some association with said explicit user profile 20.

19. The system of Claim 15, wherein said means for obtaining a list of meetings includes:

means for programming said first computer 4 to search 44 the Web for meetings having some association with said implicit user profile 26.

20. The system of Claim 16, wherein said means for obtaining a list of meetings includes:

means for programming said first computer to search 44 the Web for meetings having some association with said user profile 32.

21. The system of Claim 13, wherein said means for operating said first computer 4 to obtain a list of meetings includes means for programming said first computer to:

match the preferences 20, 26, 32 of said user against other users of said system 1, whose preferences are stored in said memory means, and

generate a recommended meetings list 40 for said user based upon meetings selected by said other users who have preferences similar to those of said user.

22. The system of Claim 21, wherein said means for programming said first computer 4 further includes:

means for operating said first computer to retrieve 48 location specific information for all or selected ones of the recommended meetings 36, 40.